

PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

February 11, 2002

Applicants : Kazuo HOKKIRIGAWA et al
For : CERAMIC MATERIAL, METHOD OF PRODUCING SAME,
AND FORMED PRODUCT THEREOF

Atty. Docket No.: OPS Case 569

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT CANCELING CLAIMS

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee in the above-identified application, kindly enter the following:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 3-9 as shown below. A marked-up copy of the amended claims is enclosed herewith.

3. (Amended) A ceramic material according to claim 1, wherein the thermosetting resin is one kind of, or not less than two kinds of resins selected from the group consisting of phenol resin, diaryl phthalate resin, unsaturated polyester resin, epoxy resin, polyimide resin, and triazine resin.

4. (Amended) A ceramic material according to claim 1, wherein the binder is an organic binder and/or an inorganic binder.

5. (Amended) A ceramic material according to claim 1, wherein a mixing ratio of the defatted bran to the thermosetting resin is 50 to 90:50 to 10 by weight.

6. (Amended) A ceramic material according to claim 1, wherein a mixing ratio of the carbonized powders to the ceramic powders is 5 to 95:95 to 5 by weight.

7. (Amended) A ceramic material according to claim 1, wherein a grain size of the carbonized powders is in a range of 10 to 500 μm .

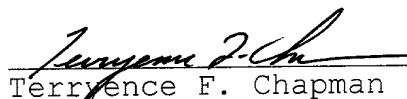
8. (Amended) A formed sintered tile, wherein the ceramic material as set forth in claim 1 is formed in the shape of a square or rectangular sheet.

9. (Amended) A formed sintered flooring, wherein the ceramic material as set forth in claim 1 is formed in the shape of a square or rectangular sheet.

REMARKS

This amendment cancels claims to reduce the filing fee. Please enter this amendment before calculating the filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,



Terryence F. Chapman

TFC/smd

FLYNN, THIEL, BOUTELL & TANIS, P.C. 2026 Rambling Road Kalamazoo, MI 49008-1699 Phone: (616) 381-1156 Fax: (616) 381-5465	Dale H. Thiel David G. Boutell Ronald J. Tanis Terryence F. Chapman Mark L. Maki David S. Goldenberg Sidney B. Williams, Jr. Liane L. Churney Brian R. Tumm Tricia R. Cobb	Reg. No. 24 323 Reg. No. 25 072 Reg. No. 22 724 Reg. No. 32 549 Reg. No. 36 589 Reg. No. 31 257 Reg. No. 24 949 Reg. No. 40 694 Reg. No. 36 328 Reg. No. 44 621
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Encl: Marked-up Amended Claims 3-9

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MARKED-UP AMENDED CLAIMS 3-9

3. (Amended) A ceramic material according to claim 1 or ~~claim 2~~, wherein the thermosetting resin is one kind of, or not less than two kinds of resins selected from the group consisting of phenol resin, diaryl phthalate resin, unsaturated polyester resin, epoxy resin, polyimide resin, and triazine resin.

4. (Amended) A ceramic material according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein the binder is an organic binder and/or an inorganic binder.

5. (Amended) A ceramic material according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein a mixing ratio of the defatted bran to the thermosetting resin is 50 to 90:50 to 10 by weight.

6. (Amended) A ceramic material according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein a mixing ratio of the carbonized powders to the ceramic powders is 5 to 95:95 to 5 by weight.

7. (Amended) A ceramic material according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein a grain size of the carbonized powders is in a range of 10 to 500 μm .

8. (Amended) A formed sintered tile, wherein the ceramic material as set forth in ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1 is formed in the shape of a square or rectangular sheet.

9. (Amended) A formed sintered flooring, wherein the ceramic material as set forth in ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1 is formed in the shape of a square or rectangular sheet.